

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 INR-05

CIAE-00 PM-03 EB-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 /039 W

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O 282258Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7382 IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 8905

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: XM, PFOR

SUBJ: CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 252858

1. I LOOK FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN NOVEMBER 24-26 CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING. I ALSO HOPE TO GET IN SOME CONSULTATION TIME PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE, AND SOME ANNUAL LEAVE OVER THE LONG THANKSGIVING WEEKEND.

2. YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES CERTAINLY KNOW THE WHOLE RANGE OF PROBLEMS CONFRONTING US IN THE HEMISPHERE. NEVERTHELESS IN PREPARING THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING I WOULD HOPE YOU WOULD CONSIDER INCLUSION OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

A. WHERE WE ARE GOING ON OUR REGIONAL (AND WORLD-WIDE) EXPROPRIATIONS POLICIES. OBVIOUSLY THE "VENEZUELA FORMULA" MUST FIGURE IMPORTANTLY IN THIS DISCUSSION. MOREOVER, AL FISHLOW ET AL. ARE NO DOUBT LEARNING (AS I AM) A FEW NEW WRINKLES ON EVALUATION METHODOLOGIES AS APPLIED IN THE MARCONA CASE. IN SHORT, NEW GROUND IS BEING PLOWED IN THE AREA OF COMPENSATION FOR EXPROPRIATED PROPERTIES.

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B. WHAT IS LEFT OF THE CIVIL AVIATION "RULES OF THE GAME"

OF THE MID-1940'S, AND WHAT WE SHOULD REALISTICALLY STRIVE FOR HENCEFORTH IN OUR MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL CIVIL NEGOTIATIONS.

C. WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE TO TAKE REGIONAL DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES SERIOUSLY, AND WHAT IF ANYTHING WE SHOULD DO TO ENCOURAGE THEM. A COMPANION TOPIC WOULD BE OUR POLICIES TOWARD AREAS OF POTENTIAL POLITICAL/MILITARY TENSIONS IN ORDER TO AVERT OR CONTAIN SUCH PROBLEMS.

D. WHAT IS ANYTHING WE USEFULLY COULD DO TO DEFUSE THE IMPENDING REGION-WIDE FRICTIONS OVER RULES FOR (1) COMPORTMENT OF THE'S AND (2) SPREAD OF TECHNOLOGY. EVEN A DISCUSSION OF SUITABLE FORA FOR SUCH TOPICS MIGHT BE REVEALING, GIVEN THE LIMITATIONS ON OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE EITHER THE FORA OR THE CONTENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON THESE TWO SUBJECTS.

E. ON A MORE GENERAL PLANE, WHAT DO WE SEE AS AMERICA'S FUTURE ROLE IN LA--WILL THERE BE A DIMINISHED PRESENCE, REDUCED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND EMPHASIS ON TRADITIONAL DIPLOMATIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS? WILL WE BE ENGAGED IN HOLDING, REAR-GUARD ACTIONS, OR CAN WE (AND CAN WE AFFORD TO) BE MORE ASSERTIVE THAN WE HAVE BEEN IN THE LAST FEW YEARS IN PRESSING OUR CASE IN MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH LA COUNTRIES?

F. AS SEEN FROM "REVOLUTIONARY" PERU, THE THIRD-WORLD AND NAC MOVEMENT CONTINUE TO PORTRAY CONSIDERABLE FORWARD MOMENTUM. REGIONALLY, PARTICIPATION IN SELA AND THE RAW MATERIALS CARTELS INCREASINGLY CONSTITUTE THE OBJECTIVES AND SUBSTANCE OF LA NATIONS' ECONOMIC POLICIES. HOW WE REACT AND ADAPT TO THESE CURRENTS IN LA THOUGHT AND ACTION IS, I EXPECT, WORTHY OF INCLUSION ON THE MEETING AGENDA.

3. NO DOUBT MANY MORE TOPICS WILL COME TO MIND AS YOU PREPARE FOR THE MEETING. WITH THE MANY CHANGES CURRENTLY UNDER WAY IN THE LATINOS' VIEW OF THEMSELVES AND OF THEIR PLACE IN THE SUN, THIS IS CERTAINLY A SUITABLE TIME FOR OUR REVIEWING THE PREMISES AND ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO US IN US-LA RELATIONS.

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NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MISSION CHIEFS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA08905
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750374-0144
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751014/aaaaamsd.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 252858
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, OCON, XM, PE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006